

- - 4 (Twice amended) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the piezoelectric actuators are differentially triggered according to a desired distribution of force over the surface between carrier plate and closure plate.

B - - 5 (Twice amended) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the piezoelectric actuators are triggered dynamically so as to match a dynamic behavior of the material to be pressed and/or the tools to be clamped.

- - 6 (Twice amended) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein a number of piezoelectric actuators required, said number being derived from a closing force and expansion of the apparatus required for generating a surface pressure.

- - 8 (Twice amended) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the piezoelectric actuators are provided in any desired geometry which can be matched to any machine requirements.

B - - 9 (Twice amended) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the piezoelectric sensors are provided between closure plate and carrier plate.

- - 10 (Twice amended) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein during operation, a subset of the piezoelectric actuators are used as piezoelectric sensors.

- - 11 (Twice amended) The apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the piezoelectric actuators that are employed as piezoelectric sensors, are employed only briefly as such sensors.

Please add the following new claims:

B3 - - 12 A pressure-generating apparatus comprising a stationary support plate, and a carrier plate traveling in relation thereto and capable of being fixed in working position, said carrier plate comprising on its side towards the support plate an electromechanically disengageable closure plate, wherein material to be pressed or tools to be clamped are arranged between the closure plate and the support plate, further wherein a disengaging force is triggered by piezoelectric actuators, and the closure plate is capable of being fixed in at least one intermediate position which executes a piezo displacement, from which intermediate position the carrier plate can be guided and subsequently fixed with the closure plate being disengaged by an additional piezo displacement.

- - 13. The apparatus according to claim 12 for use in an injection molding machine.

- - 14. The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the piezoelectric actuators are distributed in a matrix.

- - 15. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the piezoelectric actuators are provided in the shape of a rectangle.